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28 August 1950

MEMORANDUM FOR: THE DIRECTOR
THRU: The Acting Executive
SUBJECT: Charter for the Psychological Intelligence Committee

Facts Bearing on the Problem

1. On 13 January 1950 the DCI informed the members of the IAC of his decision to form an interdepartmental intelligence Committee under the chairmanship of CIA, to mobilize the foreign intelligence effort of the Government for effective support of the national foreign information program and planning for overt psychological warfare. He asked each agency to designate a representative for the Committee. FBI and AEC responded with the statement that their official interest in the subject was remote and thus, in their estimation, nominees from the two agencies were unnecessary. Accordingly the interdepartmental Committee chaired by CIA has membership from State, Army, Navy, Air Force, and the JIO.
2. Since its formation the Committee has been meeting on frequent occasions, and has made considerable progress toward developing all phases of realistic intelligence production plans in the field of psychological intelligence.
3. During recent meetings of the Committee consideration has been given toward formalizing the Committee structure by the issuance of a charter. All Committee members except State, agreed to the wording of the proposed charter.
4. The AD/ONE recommended to the DCI on 27 July 1950 that the Director submit the proposed charter to the IAC for their acceptance.

Discussion

5. Based upon the letter of the DCI to the IAC agencies and their response thereto, the Psychological Intelligence Committee has been operating satisfactorily without a formal charter. If the charter merely adds a cloak of formality to an undertaking that is getting along well without it then the necessity for its adoption is questionable.
6. By oral expression and written word the State member of the Committee has vehemently refused to go along with the other Committee members as to the wording of the proposed charter. In any IAC discussion on the charter the State Department would undoubtedly support this position thereby creating an impasse which might have a detrimental effect on current operations of the Committee.

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7. The Committee is already doing most of the activities enunciated in the Charter.

8. Paragraph 6 of the proposed Charter is not bound toward strengthening the Directorate of the CIA. It calls for the referral of problems not solved by the Committee to the DCI "for consideration by the Intelligence Advisory Committee." The IAC is not a governing body with authority to solve such Committee problems. It is in name, as it should be in actuality, "Advisory" to the Director.

Conclusions

9. Since the proposed Charter is not needed to strengthen the present functioning of the psychological intelligence Committee, and since the stand of the AD/CIO, proposing consideration of this Charter by the IAC, might create difficulties at the IAC level it is concluded that the action recommended by the AD/CIO should not be approved by the Director.

Recommendation

10. It is recommended that the Director approve the above conclusions and sign Attachment A for transmittal to the AD/CIO.

PRESCOTT CHILDS, Chief
Coordination, Operations
and Policy Staff

Enclosure
Attachment A

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